

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : Mr. A. H. Belmont

DATE: December 24, 1963

FROM : Mr. W. C. Sullivan

DECLASSIFIED BY

ON 11-15-80 6036

SUBJECT: COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

NEGRO QUESTION

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE IN RACIAL MATTERS

INTERNAL SECURITY - COMMUNIST

1-Mr. Belmont
 1-Mr. Sullivan
 1-Mr. Baumgardner
 1-Mr. Gurley
 1-Mr. Ryan

Tolson _____
 Belmont _____
 Mohr _____
 Casper _____
 Callahan _____
 Conrad _____
 DeLoach _____
 Evans _____
 Gale _____
 Rosen _____
 Sullivan _____
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 Tele. Room _____
 Holmes _____
 Gandy _____

In view of the influence the Communist Party, USA (CPUSA), is exerting on the racial situation, particularly through Martin Luther King, head of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the Director approved a conference be held between representatives of our Atlanta Office and Seat of Government personnel.

Recognizing the delicacy of this entire situation because of the prominence of King, the primary purpose of the conference was to explore how best to carry on our investigation to produce the desired results without embarrassment to the Bureau. Included in our discussion was a complete analysis of the avenues of approach aimed at neutralizing King as an effective Negro leader and developing evidence concerning King's continued dependence on communists for guidance and direction.

The conference was held at the Seat of Government on 12-23-63. It was attended by SA [redacted] from our Atlanta Office. The Seat of Government representatives were Assistant Director W. C. Sullivan, Inspector Joseph A. Sizoo, Section Chief F. J. Baumgardner and Supervisors L. T. Gurley and David Ryan. The conference lasted from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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FJB:skw

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OTHER :WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] (U)
During the discussion which followed, the men from the field outlined in detail the operation of the SCLC in Atlanta and the manner in which it is managed by King. (U)

Our discreet approach to this case has been necessitated by King's prominence and the delicate situation which surrounds the entire racial movement. A wrong move could well result in extreme embarrassment to the Bureau. As a result of the conference, it was decided we need to develop additional information in the following areas: (U)

- (1) We must determine and check out all of the employees of the SCLC.
- (2) We must locate and monitor the funds of the SCLC.
- (3) We must identify and check out the sources who contribute to the SCLC.

(4)

(5)

(6)

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OTHER :WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

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This conference proved to be most beneficial, and the men from the field expressed their appreciation for the opportunity of being brought into the Seat of Government for the purpose of exploring this entire matter. They were both enthusiastic about the case and stated the conference was of exceptional benefit to them and will be of assistance in setting the future course of the investigation. (U)

OTHER WITHHELD UNDER COURT ORDER

ACTION:

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